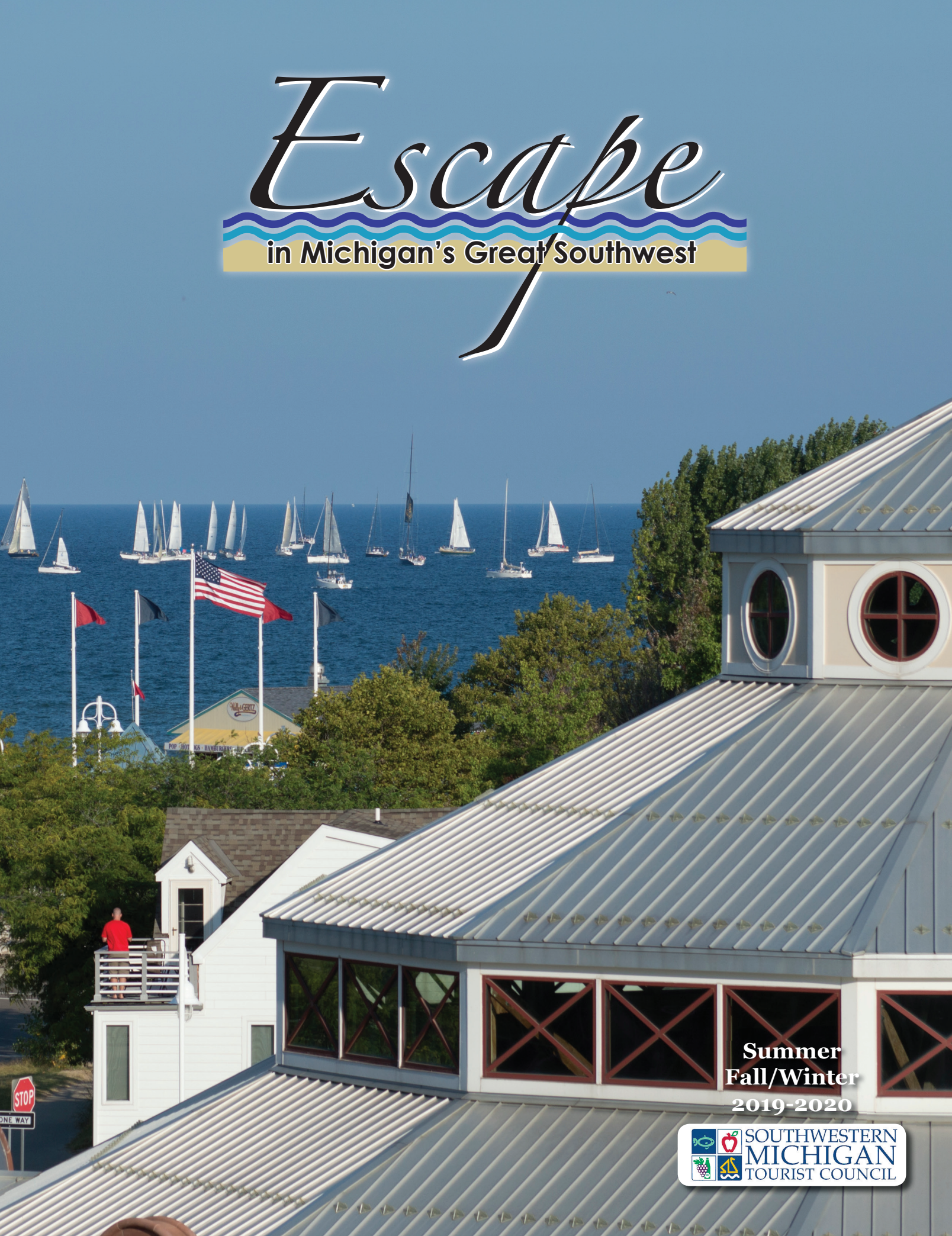
Escape

in Michigan's Great Southwest



Summer
Fall/Winter
2019-2020

SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN TOURIST COUNCIL

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Escape
in Michigan's Great Southwest

Welcome to Michigan's beautiful Southwest! We are delighted that you have chosen to stay with us, and we invite you to take time to slow down and enjoy all that this area has to offer.

Situated on the western shore of beautiful Lake Michigan, the landscape fans out to encompass a countryside of rolling hills and farmlands, fields of crops, beautiful orchards, small lakes, woods and streams, all beckoning visitors to share in its unique and diverse beauty. The charm of rural communities offers a delightful change of pace for visitors; and bountiful flowers, fruits and vegetables at roadside stands, a hayride, pumpkin patch or corn maze welcome families to enjoy the bountiful harvest of this area.

Escape is a collaboration between this hotel, the Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council and Far Ahead Advertising. Our hope is that you will fall in love with our area so that you'll come back again and again to visit us. Before you leave, make sure to book your next visit in Michigan's Great Southwest.

Special thank you to Joshua Nowicki for photographs used throughout ***Escape***.

Southwestern Michigan
Tourist Council Welcome Center
2300 Pipestone Rd., Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(I-94 exit 29)

(269) 925-6301

Find even more information online at
www.swmichigan.org

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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

DIAL 911
FOR EMERGENCY

HOSPITALS

Lakeland Hospital
1234 Napier Ave,
St Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-8300

Lakeland Hospital, Watervliet
400 Medical Park Dr #200,
Watervliet, MI 49098
(269) 463-3600

WALK-IN CLINICS

Urgent-Care Medical Walk-In
1850 Pipestone Rd # 101,
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 925-6600

Southwestern Medical Clinic
5515 Cleveland Ave #5,
Stevensville, MI 49127
(269) 429-9644

Watervliet Medical Center
450 Medical Park Dr,
Watervliet, MI 49098
(269) 463-6900

POLICE

Michigan State Police Paw Paw Post
43255 60th Ave,
Paw Paw, MI 49079
(269) 657-5551

Berrien County Sheriff's Department
919 Port St., St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-7174

Benton Harbor Police Department
200 E Wall St, Benton Harbor, MI
(269) 927-8414

Benton Charter Township Police Department
1725 Territorial Rd #1,
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 925-1135

Lincoln Twp (Stevensville) Police Department
5599 Cleveland Ave,
Stevensville, MI 49127
(269) 429-2444

St Joseph Police
700 Broad St, St Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-2571

St. Joseph Township Police Department
3000 Washington Ave,
St Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 429-6890

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CHALK THE BLOCK

AUGUST 2-4

St. Joseph Today is excited to celebrate the 23rd Annual Chalk the Block from Friday, August 2 through Sunday, August 4. This family friendly festival showcases both amateur and professional chalk artists, using the quaint downtown of St. Joseph, Michigan as their backdrop.

Chalk art isn't the only sidewalk entertainment planned. Additional weekend activities include lighthouse and heritage walking tours, a farmers market, antiques on the bluff, Friday and Sunday concerts, and free horse-drawn trolley rides around this Victorian-era downtown.

LOCATION:
Downtown St. Joseph, MI
stjoetoday.com

23RD ANNUAL
ST. JOSEPH TODAY
Chalk the Block
DOWNTOWN

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WINES AND BREWS

MAKERS TRAIL

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN BEER, WINE & SPIRITS

Every land has its makers, those artisans who are crafters of wood, forgers of steel, and tillers of earth. Ours are masters of wine, beer and spirits. An increasing number of these artisans are putting down stakes just off our Lake Michigan shore. It's easy for you to find them. Just follow the Makers Trail. You're just minutes from each one in Southwest Michigan.

What a welcome you'll receive as wine corks are popped or beer kegs and whiskey barrels are tapped!

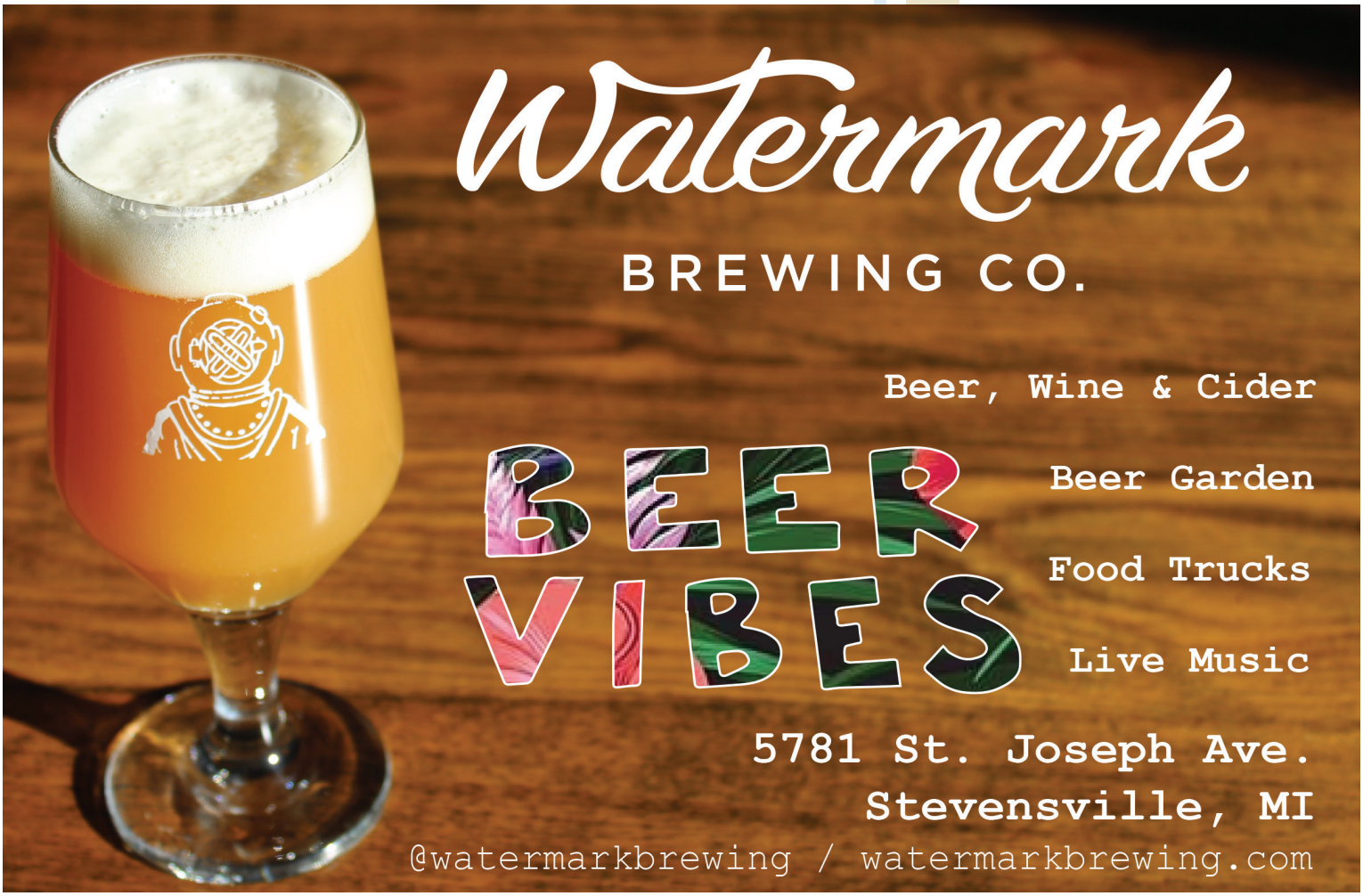
The makers will pour flights for you and offer plates of savory cheeses, smoky grilled meats, crisp vegetables and creamy chocolate truffles – most from locally sourced ingredients. So take a moment to pause in the whirl of life. It'll make you happy.

The Makers Trail mobile app will guide your journey and offer discounts (see page 12). Makers Trail maps are also available at the front desk of most local hotels.

Visit www.makerstrail.org for an up to date list of local makers.

The landscape of Southwest Michigan is dotted with picturesque vineyards and wineries, and craft breweries have sprung up in abundance throughout our area. Many of our wines and beers are award-winning and can be sampled at local restaurants, as well as at the wineries and breweries. We're delighted to share with you some of the best wines and beers you'll find anywhere.

Find the complete listing at www.makerstrail.org



BREWERS:

Arclight Brewing Company
544 N. Main St, Watervliet
arclightbrewing.com

Grande Mere Inn's
5800 Red Arrow Hwy, Stevensville
grandemereinn.com

Greenbush Brewing Co.
5885 Sawyer Rd, Sawyer
greenbushbrewing.com

Haymarket Brewing
9301 Red Arrow Hwy, Bridgman
haymarketbrewing.com

The Livery Microbrewery
190 5th St, Benton Harbor
liverybrew.com

North Pier Brewing Company
670 North Shore Dr,
Benton Harbor
northpierbrewing.com

Round Barn
Brewery & Public House
9151 First St, Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com

Round Barn
Winery, Distillery & Brewery
Baroda Tasting Room & Estate
10983 Hills Rd, Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com

Silver Harbor Brewing Company
721 Pleasant St, St. Joseph
silverharborbrewing.com

Tapistry Brewing
4236 Lake St, Bridgman
tapistrybrewing.com

Transient Artisan Ales
4229 Lake St, Bridgman
transientartisanales.com

Watermark Brewing Company
5781 St. Joseph Ave, Stevensville
watermarkbrewing.com

DISTILLERIES:

Free Run Cellars
Berrien Springs Tasting Room
10062 Burgoyne Rd,
Berrien Springs
freeruncellars.com

Iron Shoe Distillery
3 North 3rd St, Niles
facebook.com/IronShoeDistillery

Journeyman Distillery
109 Generations Dr, Three Oaks
journeymandistillery.com

Round Barn Public House
9151 First St, Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com

Lemon Creek Winery
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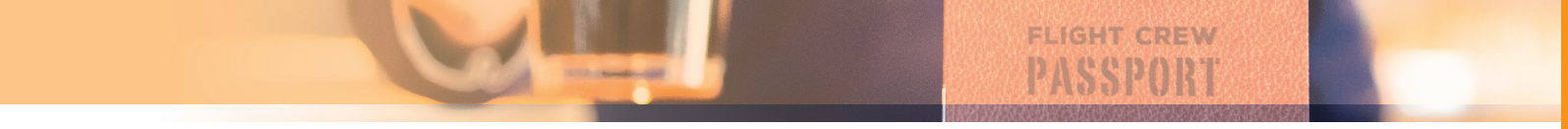
Winery & Vineyard
533 E Lemon Creek Rd
Berrien Springs, MI 49103
269.471.1321
lemoncreekwinery.com



Round Barn
Winery, Distillery & Brewery
Baroda Tasting Room & Estate
10983 Hills Rd, Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com

WINERIES:

12 Corners Vineyards
1201 N. Benton Center Rd,
Benton Harbor
12corners.com

Baroda Founders Tasting Room
415 State St, St. Joseph
founderswinecellar.com

Baroda Founders Wine Cellar
8963 Hills Rd, Baroda
founderswinecellar.com

Contessa Wine Cellars
3235 Friday Rd, Coloma
contessawinecellars.com

Dablon Vineyards
111 W. Shawnee Rd, Baroda
Dablon.com

Domaine Berrien Cellars
398 E. Lemon Creek Rd,
Berrien Springs
domaineberrien.com

Free Run Cellars
10062 Burgoyne Rd,
Berrien Springs
freeruncellars.com

Gravity
10220 Lauer Rd, Baroda
gravitywine.com

Hickory Creek Winery
750 Browntown Rd, Buchanan
hickorycreekwinery.com

Karma Vista Vineyards
6991 Ryno Rd, Coloma
karmavista.com

Lake Michigan Vitners
Tasting Room
8972 First St, Baroda
lakemichiganvitners.com

Lazy Ballerina Winery
315 State St, St. Joseph
4209 Lake Street, Bridgman
lazyballerinawinery.com

Lehman's Orchard
2280 Portage Rd, Niles
lehmansorchard.com

(continued on next page) ->

WINERIES *(cont.)*:

Lehman's Orchard Brewery & Farmhouse
204 N. Red Bud Trl, Buchanan
lehmansfarmhouse.com

Lemon Creek Winery
533 E. Lemon Creek Rd,
Berrien Springs
lemoncreekwinery.com

Moonrise Winery
47785 Hill Rd, Watervliet
moonrisewinery.com

Red Top Winery
482 E. Snow Rd, Baroda
redtopwinery.com

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Round Barn & Free Run Cellars Union Pier Tasting Room
9185 Union Pier Rd, Union Pier
roundbarnwinery.com
freeruncellars.com

Round Barn Public House
9151 First St, Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com

Round Barn Winery
10983 Hills Rd, Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com

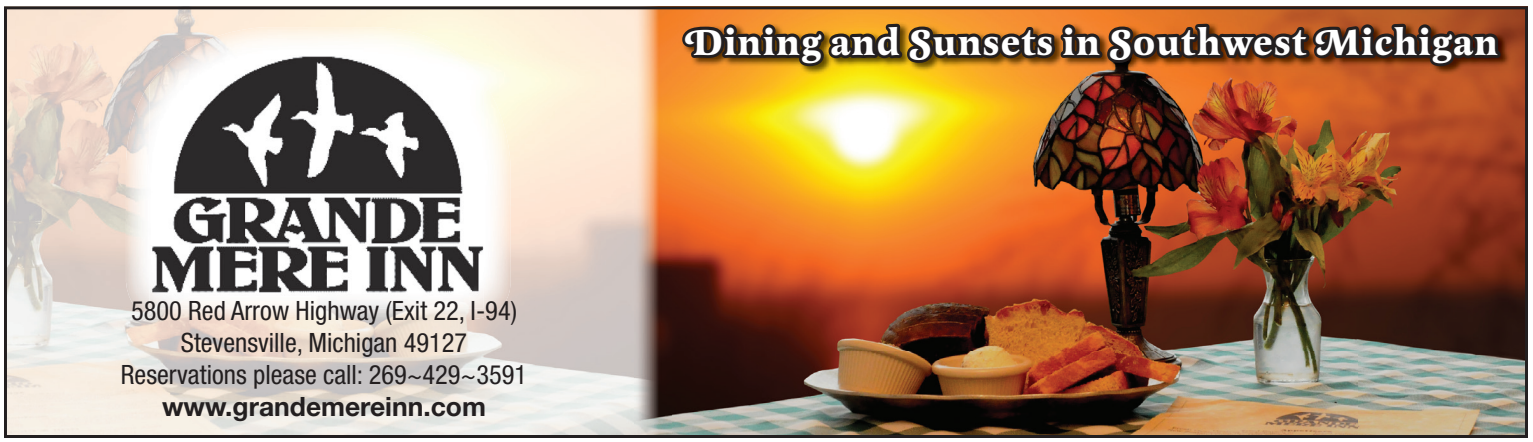
St. Julian Winery Union Pier Tasting Room
9145 Union Pier Rd, Union Pier
stjulian.com

Tabor Hill Winery Champagne Cellar
10243 Red Arrow Hwy, Bridgman
taborhill.com

Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant
185 Mount Tabor Rd, Buchanan
taborhill.com

Vineyard 2121 Winery & Tasting Room
4110 Red Arrow Hwy,
Benton Harbor
vineyard2121.com

White Pine Winery
317 State St, St. Joseph
whitepinewinery.com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Stevensville, Michigan 49127
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www.grandemereinn.com

WINTER BEER FEST

St. Joseph Today invites everyone 21 years and older to come out of hibernation on Saturday, January 25, 2020 and meet friends at this lakeside destination during the Annual Outdoor St. Joe Winter Beer Fest. Craft beer enthusiasts will enjoy sampling from local and regional Michigan breweries. Limited tickets are available for this popular winter fest and will go on sale in early January 2020.

JANUARY 25

LOCATION:
Corner of Broad St and Lake Blvd,
St. Joseph, MI
Sat., Jan. 25, Noon-4pm
stjoetoday.com

American and Smokehouse Cuisine
Craft Beers/Cocktails/Wine
The Strand Grill
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SISTER LAKES MI
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BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR

Come one; come all to the Berrien County Youth Fair August 12-17, 2019! The theme for this year's fair is "Country Nights, Carnival Lights." This 74th year of the BCYF, as always, highlights an exciting week for the youth of our area as they exhibit and show their animals, and display crafts, home economics projects, flowers, horticulture and much more. Monday is the Tractor Pull, and the popular Circus Continental will return on Tuesday. Youth Fair officials have announced an exciting Grandstand lineup of entertainment acts for this year, including The Eli Young Band on Wednesday August 14 with special guest performer Paul Erdman. An all-truck derby is featured on Thursday and an all-car derby is scheduled for Friday. Bullmania is featured on Saturday.

There's much more to see and do; and the Berrien County Youth Fair wouldn't be complete without midway rides, music and tantalizing eats and treats.

AUGUST 12-17

LOCATION:
Berrien Springs, MI
Gates 1 & 2 – 9122 US Hwy. 31
Gate 3 – 4261 E. Shawnee Rd.
Mon.-Fri., Aug. 12-17
Youth Fair Gate Admission:
Adults, Day Pass - $7.00
Children (5-12), Day Pass - $4.00
65 & Over, Day Pass - $5.00
Adult Season Pass - $20.00
Child Season Pass - $10.00
65 and Over, Season Pass - $13.00
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bcyf.org
Phone: (877) 772-5425

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TRI-STATE REGATTA

A magnificent sight awaits you on Labor Day weekend when St. Joseph River Yacht Club hosts more than 100 sailboats on the first leg of one of the most prominent sailing events in the region, the Tri-State Regatta. This Chicago to St. Joseph to Michigan City to Chicago race has been delighting residents and visitors alike every Labor Day weekend for decades.

Depending on weather conditions, the sailboats should arrive Saturday, August 31 between 9am and 10am. Most moor in the St. Joseph River next to the Arboretum in downtown St. Joseph, making this a favored destination for photographers and sightseers.

The St. Joseph River Yacht Club has a number of activities planned for that Saturday that are open to the public, including an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast from 6:30am-12:30pm, lunch from noon-4pm and dinner from 6-9:30pm. The club pool will be open to the public all day and a band will provide music from 8pm-midnight.

Sunday morning is another excellent opportunity for spectators, especially from either the south pier (off Silver Beach) or the north pier (off Tiscornia Park), when crews ready their vessels for departure from St. Joseph port, sailing off into the blue waters of Lake Michigan between 9:30am-10:30am.

Also on Sunday, September 1, be sure to take in the Regatta Craft Fair at Lake Bluff Park from 10am-5pm.

YACHT CLUB LOCATION:
1 Lighthouse Lane, St. Joseph, MI
(269) 983-6393

AUG 31-SEPT 1

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SEPTEMBER 21

FALL FESTIVAL

As the days grow cooler here in Southwest Michigan, the leaves begin to turn, spreading a blanket of beautiful crimson and gold across the landscape; and the final harvest of fruits and vegetables will be underway. It's time to celebrate at the St. Joseph Fall Festival!

LOCATION:
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph
Sat., Sept. 21, 10am-3pm
stjoetoday.com

Sister Lakes
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CHRISTMAS IN MICHIGAN'S GREAT SOUTHWEST

Kids scramble out of cars and mini-vans, tromping every which-way through new-fallen snow. Their excited voices echo over the hills, into the barn and through fields of lush-green pines, spruces and firs. The trees stand firm in neat rows, the snow clinging to their branches reflecting the dying light of the day. Children disappear between them, anxious to find just the right one that will give Santa the perfect place for presents. Welcome to Christmastime in Michigan's Great Southwest.

Millions of Americans also love Michigan Christmas trees. According to the Michigan Christmas Tree Association, Michigan's annual harvest of more than 3 million trees supplies more than 20 percent of the national market. In fact, Michigan follows Oregon as the nation's No. 3 Christmas tree producer, according to the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Michigan Christmas trees not only decorate the homes of Michigan and U.S. families, but also several foreign countries.

The season is filled with classic Christmas activities for families – everything from horse-drawn sleigh rides to finding unique gifts to cutting their own Christmas tree.

To the southwest in Galien, Mich., Pinecrest Farms has been growing Christmas trees for more than 25 years. In that time, they have seen generations make the experience a tradition, returning year after year. Folks who were 5 or 6 years old when they first visited are now bringing their own kids.

The best time to get a tree? Most farms are open the first day after Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve. Special attractions such as hay wagon rides are usually offered only on weekends. Visitors also enjoy free hot chocolate, find gifts and get fragrant handmade wreaths, swags and centerpieces to decorate their homes.

Besides getting a fresh tree at one of dozens of farms in southwest Michigan, there are many other ways to enjoy the season. There is shopping without the crowds, downhill and cross-country skiing or just strolling along a snowy nature path.

Visit Three Oaks Michigan

Shopping • Dining • Entertainment

Take Exit 4A East off of I-94

Presented by the Village of Three Oaks
Downtown Development Authority
threeoaksvillage.org

Photos provided by Harrington Photography, Three Oaks

NOVEMBER 16

LUMINARY FESTIVAL

The holiday season will begin November 16 with the warm glow of hundreds of luminaries lining the streets of Victorian-era downtown St. Joseph, Michigan. The Luminary Festival creates a joyful atmosphere for all ages to enjoy, with refreshments, special prices and gift ideas galore from participating restaurants and shopkeepers. Eat, shop, drink and be merry!

LOCATION:
Downtown St. Joseph
Fri., Nov. 16, 5pm-8pm
stjoetoday.com

GOOD FOOD from SCRATCH

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DECEMBER 6-7

MERRY & BRIGHT WEEKEND

Getting into the holiday spirit is easy when you visit the Victorian-era downtown in St. Joseph during the month of December. This magical weekend is kicked off with Light up the Bluff, a ceremony at Lake Bluff Park when the mayor flips the switch at dusk and a million lights twinkle on the community tree and holiday-themed displays. A stroll along the sidewalk on the bluff with its myriad of lights and displays is guaranteed to put even the Grinch in the mood to celebrate!

Following the tree lighting, visitors can stroll downtown and enjoy the Window Wonderland event from 7pm-8:30pm. Dozens of store fronts will participate in this holiday window decorating event. Gift hunters will appreciate the unique selections, special prices, and festive shopping atmosphere that evening and throughout December.

On Saturday, December 7, the Reindog Holiday Parade, kicks off at 4 p.m. This event features dressed up pets and their owners in a variety of holiday garb. Be prepared to see all kinds of costumes from "Santa Bernards" to "Reindeer Rottweilers" – this is definitively a must-see event. The event also marks the arrival of Santa. After the parade, children can share their wish lists with Santa at Santa's House. Santa will be at the house, located at State and Pleasant Streets until December 23.

LOCATION:
Downtown St. Joseph, MI
Fri., Dec. 6 at dusk
Light up the bluff

Fri., Dec. 6 - 7pm-8:30pm
Window Wonderland

Fri., Dec. 7 - 4pm
Reindog Holiday Parade

stjoetoday.com

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WE LOVE KIDS!

Southwest Michigan is a family-friendly place, and we welcome children of all ages to enjoy special places created just for them.

CURIOUS KIDS MUSEUM AND DISCOVERY ZONE

Curious Kids Museum (CKM) and its offshoot, Discovery Zone, invite you to come play, learn and be curious! Opened in 1989, CKM on the bluff in downtown St. Joseph, provides a place where "Learning is Fun" through interactive, hands-on exhibits.

The museum was developed to inspire curiosity and wonder while stimulating learning, imagination, exploration, and role playing in a child's world. It's a great place for children ages 1-10 to spend time learning and creating while in Southwest Michigan.

LOCATION:
415 Lake Blvd., St. Joseph, MI
Free parking
Entrance fee: $6/person
$10 1-day joint admission to both CKM and DZ
Free for members and guests under 12 months
curiouskidsmuseum.org
(269) 983-2543

Sizzling Summer Sale
10%-50% off Selected Apparel

Hummingbird

Fashions

New women's boutique featuring fashion and accessories from local jewelry artists to international designers

Open Thurs & Fri 12-5 • Sat 11-5 • Sun 12-4
9729-B Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman
269-266-7214

In 2010, the Curious Kids' Museum had the opportunity to expand and open a second location in partnership with the Silver Beach Carousel and Shadowland Ballroom, by opening Curious Kids' Discovery Zone (DZ) below the bluff. Sharing the vision of CKM for a place where children and accompanying adults can pursue their natural curiosity through creative play, DZ has over 35 hands-on features and is geared for children ages 3-14. A day of fun, imagination and exploration awaits. Children can create imagery and art with a giant pin wall or watch dance moves come alive with color in the Virtual Reflections Room. They might become a rock climber on a true climbing wall designed for children. They can explore the nature of water flow at the Water Works exhibit, or sail a boat with wind and wave and learn about Lake Michigan and its might, past and present. They can climb to new heights in the Lighthouse Climbing Tower, an almost 20 foot tall climbing structure with a pinnacle view of Lake Michigan from the porthole window inside. Stop in for a day of wonder and exploration!

LOCATION:
333 Broad Street,
below the bluff,
St. Joseph, MI
Parking: $2/hr.
parking lot behind
Silver Beach Center
Entrance fee: $6/person
$10 1-day joint admission to
both CKM and DZ
Free for members
and guests 2 and under.
www.curiouskidsmuseum.org
(269) 982-8500

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SILVER BEACH CAROUSEL

Make a lifetime of memories all year round at the Silver Beach Carousel! Pick your favorite figure to ride from 48 magnificent, hand-carved menagerie figures and two chariots. Your heart will soar as you spin beneath 1,000 twinkling lights. Learn about the area's fascinating history from the 18 rounding boards circling above.

Explore the fun-filled days of the Silver Beach Amusement Park (1892 to 1971) with memorabilia filling the carousel house and attached museum. Or grab a bag of fresh popcorn or cotton candy from the concession stand and listen to the happiest music on earth.

LOCATION:
333 Broad Street, (below the bluff)
St. Joseph, MI
Parking fee: $2/hr. in parking lot behind Silver Beach Center
Fee for carousel tokens
silverbeachcarousel.com
(269) 932-1141

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M-139 by Napier, Benton Harbor
Monday - Saturday • 6:30am - 9:30pm
Sunday 11am-8pm

WHIRLPOOL COMPASS FOUNTAIN

Be sure to take a few minutes to enjoy the refreshing sight of the Whirlpool Compass Fountain as the waters jet upward against the backdrop of Silver Beach before descending again to the splash pad below! Children joyfully splashing through the waters bring a smile to the faces of adults, who are usually content to relax on one of several nearby benches as they keep an eye on their scampering youngsters.

LOCATION:
200 Broad Street, below the bluff,
St. Joseph, MI
Parking fee in south parking lot
No fee for fountain
stjoetoday.com/discover/attractions/details/whirlpool-compass-fountain

TEN FOUNTAIN FUN FACTS

- Concrete inner splash pad is 150 feet.
- Outer ring of the pad is 200 ft. in diameter.
- There are 28 varying height water jets.
- Water jets supply 785 gallons of water per minute.
- There are 5 computerized light shows available.
- 8 water cannons are mounted on armillary spheres.
- Cannons are equipped with 1000-watt lights.
- Cannons spray water 35 ft. into the air.
- The water cannons supply 2,560 gallons of water per minute.
- The reservoir holds 10,860 gallons of recycled water.

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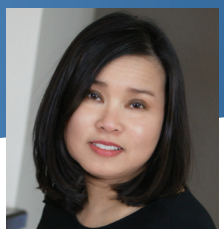

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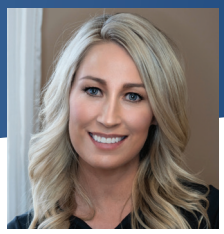

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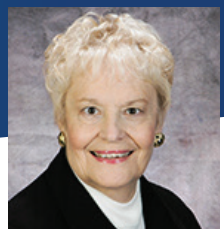

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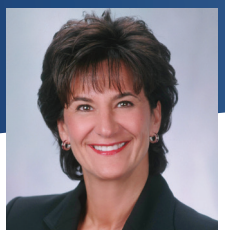

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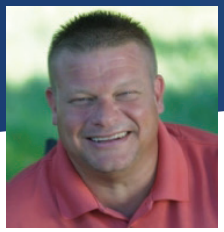

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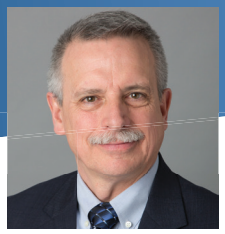

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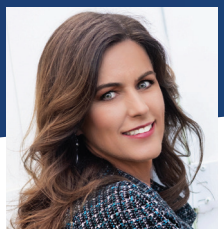

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ENJOY WINTER WITH US

When the Christmas season has ended and we've turned the page on a New Year, it's a perfect time to plan a get-away to our shores. After the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, it's a more relaxed time here in Southwest Michigan; but there's still plenty to see and do and hotel rooms are more available! The Christmas lights on the bluff will continue to delight our visitors until Valentine's Day. It's a perfect time to visit one of the museums or take in a concert. There's sledding and ice skating and events throughout the winter that you won't want to miss.

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3151 Niles Road (M-63)
St. Joseph, MI
Exit 27 Off I-94
Nye's Apple Barn
& Farm Market

ICE SKATING

If you enjoy ice skating, the John & Dede Howard Ice Arena is a great, family-friendly ice rink within the City of St. Joseph. The arena is a partially enclosed, refrigerated NHL-sized (200' x 85') outdoor rink. It has a Zamboni, skate rental, concession stand and warming shelter. Although the arena has open skate times, they are subject to weather conditions, so be sure to check the website news feed or contact the Ice Rink to inquire about weather-related closings.

LOCATION:
2411 Willa Dr, St Joseph
Free parking
Fee for skating and/or skate rental
sjcity.com/live-here/ice-arena
(269) 983-8795

ST. JOSEPH CHILI TOUR

JANUARY 24

Warm up in downtown St. Joseph in late January at the Annual Chili Tour. Participating locations or "Chili Stops" will play host as you have the opportunity to try their best recipes.

Get started at the St. Joseph Today Welcome Center located at 301 State Street in downtown St. Joseph. Maps featuring participating locations will be available for purchase and also double as a voting ballot. Turn it in at the end of the night to vote for your favorite chili.

LOCATION:
Start at 301 State St,
downtown St. Joseph, MI
Fri., Jan. 24, 2020, 5pm-8pm
stjoetoday.com
(269) 985-1111

ALL DAY
EVERY DAY

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JAN 31-FEB 2

MAGICAL ICE FEST

St. Joseph, Michigan is renowned as a four-season water wonderland with Lake Michigan and nearby rivers and inland lakes. But this time of year the city's focus turns to frozen water during its Magical Ice Fest presented by Silver Beach Pizza.

The Magical Ice Fest starts Friday, Jan. 31, 2020 with professional carvers creating their artistic creations from blocks of ice on downtown streets, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Immediately following the competition, the winter night will glimmer and glow at 7:30 p.m. with an amazing tower of both Fire & Ice on the corner of State and Pleasant. Then from 8 p.m. to midnight, adults 18 and over can enjoy the Fire & Ice Party at Shadowland on Silver Beach. This event features a cash bar, tropical martini luge, pizza from Silver Beach Pizza, live music, and more.

LOCATION:
Downtown St. Joseph, MI with Fire & Ice Party at Shadowland Pavilion
Fri., Jan. 31-Feb. 2
Free parking
Free event
shadowlandonsilverbeach.com
(269) 932-1128

ST. JOSEPH RIVER CANOE & KAYAK LIVERY
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fishermanswharfsj.com
269-277-4434
602 Fisherman's Road
Two doors down (south) from Clementines
next to On The River Tavern

MARCH 2

MARCH MANNEQUINS

Watch storefronts and windows of participating downtown businesses come alive from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. during the annual March Mannequins event on March 2nd. Dozens of community volunteers will pose perfectly still, like mannequins. Event attendees can vote for their favorite window in the People's Choice vote.

LOCATION:
Downtown St. Joseph, MI
stjoetoday.com
(269) 985-1111

SAME FACES... SAME CHAMBER... NEW NAME

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL CHAMBER

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OUR RICH HISTORY

The rich history of Southwest Michigan is just waiting for you to discover! Our roots go deep in this beautiful land. Originally inhabited by Indians, the first known white man coming to our area was Father Jacques Marquette, a French Jesuit priest, who entered the mouth of the St. Joseph River in 1669. However, it was French explorer La Salle who arrived a decade later and built Fort Miami, overlooking the bluff in St. Joseph. The area eventually became the city of St. Joseph. Take some time to explore and learn about our fascinating history while you're here.

THE CANDLESTICK MAKER

SHOP LATE 10a-8p
7 DAYS A WEEK!

22 Local Artists on Display

St. Joe Lighthouse Gifts & Photos
Local Beach Glass Jewelry & Crafts
Areas Largest Room Fragrance Selection
Nautical Gifts - Home Décor

408 State, Downtown St. Joe
(Next to The Buck)

HERITAGE MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Be sure to put The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center on your must-see list while visiting St. Joseph. Located in a classical, carefully preserved and beautifully appointed building in St. Joseph, it houses this area's history, its artifacts and archival collections and a research library. Carefully preserved and beautifully appointed, it presents the stories of Southwest Michigan in spacious exhibit halls and creates new memories in elegant banquet facilities. The Heritage website will give you details on special exhibits and presentations.

LOCATION:
601 Main St, St Joseph, MI
Open Tues. - Sat. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 10am-4pm
Free parking
Free museum entrance
theheritagemcc.org
(269) 983-7227

LIGHTHOUSE TOURS

The Heritage Center also organizes public tours of the historic St. Joseph North Pier Lighthouses May 24 through September 8, 2019. Following the major restoration completed in 2016, St. Joseph now has the only lighthouses located on a Lake Michigan pier which are regularly open to the public. The North Pier range lighthouses, along with their preserved "catwalks" or elevated walkways, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The most comprehensive way to experience the lighthouse is to attend an hour-long guided walking tour of the North Pier, culminating in an optional climb up to the lantern room inside the Inner Lighthouse.

All tours and open hours are weather, wave and wind dependent. You must sign a liability release and be at least 48 inches tall to climb the tower. Closed-toed walking shoes are best; no thong-type sandals. Make sure to dress for the weather. A tour may be conducted in light rain. Dresses and skirts are not advised, but sunscreen and sunglasses are.

LOCATION:
Tiscornia Park, 80 Ridgeway Street, St. Joseph, MI
Fri.-Sat., May 24-Sept. 8, departing at 10am
Parking Fee at Tiscornia
Guided tour tickets: Purchase online and register at website, by phone or email at kulrey@theheritagemcc.org or you can walk up the day of the tour (first come, first served).
Cost is $10 per person. Children and young adults under 18 are $5.
stjoelighthousetours.org
(269) 983-1191

LIGHTHOUSE OPEN HOURS

Explore the Inner Lighthouse at your own pace and learn about the Twin Cities' rich maritime heritage.
Wednesdays–7pm-sunset;
Fridays and Saturdays–
10am-2pm; Sundays–12pm-4pm
Free entrance to exhibits in lower section of lighthouse
Tower Climb Tour to lantern:
$5/person
(Tickets sold on site only, payment by cash or card.
First-come, first served.)

NILES HISTORY CENTER

If you enjoy history, The Niles History Center is the perfect place to learn more about the bygone days of Southwest Michigan. The Center includes the Fort St. Joseph Museum and the historic Chapin Mansion. The Fort St. Joseph Museum was organized in 1932 and moved to its present location in 1939, with the carriage house and boiler house of the Henry A. Chapin Mansion joined to the original museum. Today, you'll find a wide variety of exhibits including Sitting Bull pictographs, Fort St. Joseph, Underground Railroad and Victorian decorative arts.

The historic Chapin Mansion was originally owned by Henry A. Chapin, who obtained his wealth through ownership of the Chapin Mine in Iron Mountain, Michigan. He started construction of the beautiful mansion in 1882.

Designed by Wheelock & Clay, architects from Chicago, the style is basically American Aesthetic. It was built at the end of Victorian excesses and shows the Gothic, medieval and 'Aesthetic Art' design influence. The mansion is under restoration, but the outstanding woodwork, intricate stained glass and wonderful chandeliers may still be seen while on a tour. Tour season varies due to current renovations.

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DAGOSTINOSNAVAJO.COM

LOCATION:
508 E. Main St., Niles, MI
Fort St. Joseph Museum open:
Wed. - Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat. 10am-3pm
Free Parking
Free admission
Chapin House: Call for dates, times and admission fees
nileshistorycenter.org
(269) 683-4700

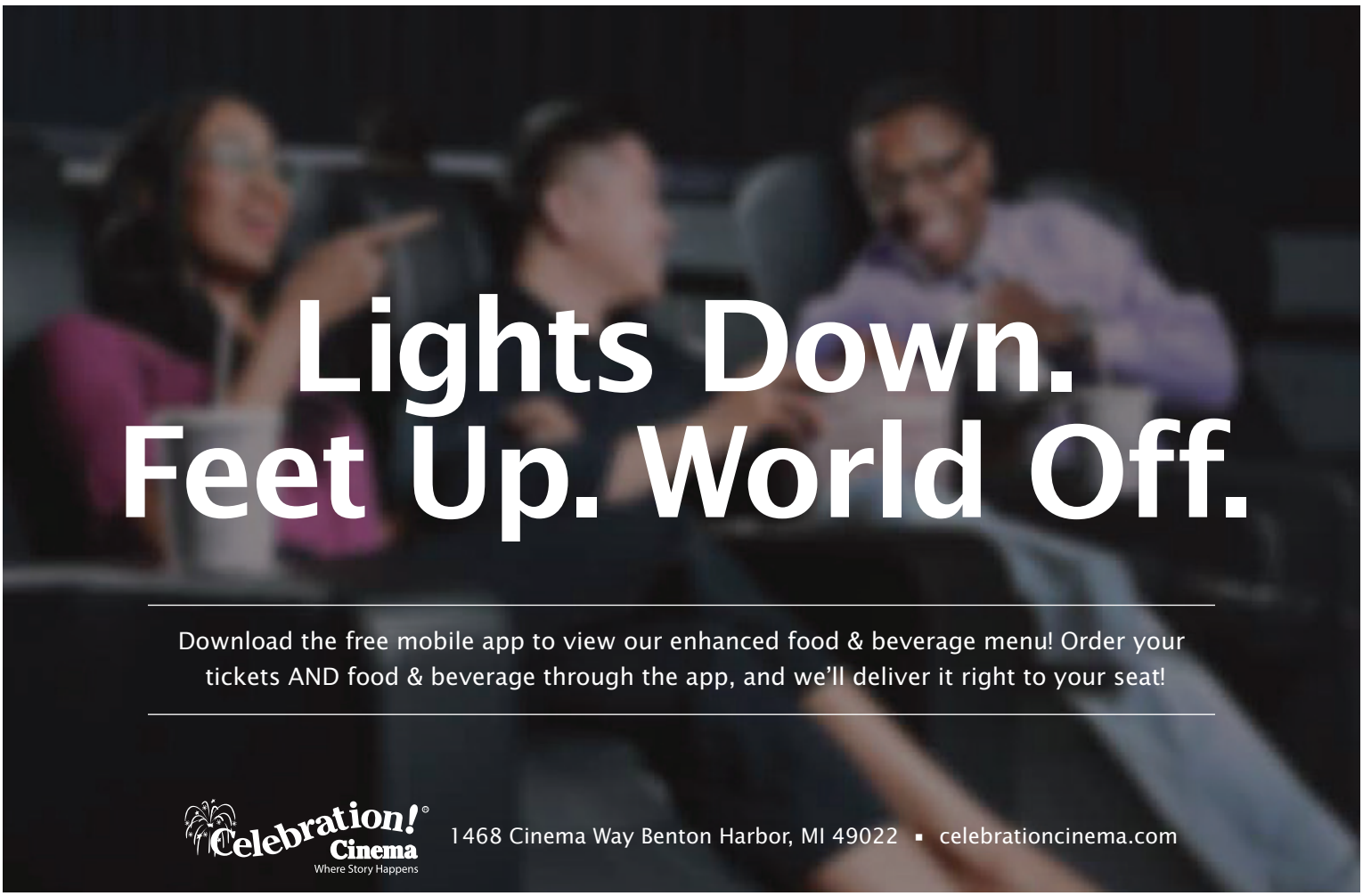
NORTH BERRIEN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

LOCATION:
300 Coloma Ave., Coloma, MI
Summer hours: Tues. through Sat., 10am-4pm
Winter hours: Tues. through Fri., 10am-4pm
Free admission
northberrienhistory.org
(269) 468-3330

History lovers are going to enjoy spending time at the North Berrien Historical Museum, where you'll find exhibits covering 10,000 years of human history, from archaeology to modern technology.

Native Americans, including the Pottawatomie, have long resided in what is now North Berrien County, Michigan. In 1834, a settlement called "Shingle Diggins" was established on the Paw Paw River. Saw and grist mills, basket and canning factories, and the Chicago-Grand Rapids railroad soon prompted the growth of Coloma, Watervliet and Riverside. Farmers planted orchards on the rolling hills near Lake Michigan, which moderates the temperature to create a climate perfect for growing fruit. Paw Paw Lake, the region's largest inland lake, became a legendary resort area. The automobile era led to the development of Lake Michigan Beach, which also began as a resort community.

The main gallery features Native Americans, lake resorts, rural schools, resident life, and businesses. The Nichols Agricultural Building holds farm equipment, lumbering tools, and transportation displays. The Print Shop contains the original newspaper linotype and other printing artifacts from the Watervliet Record. The Carter House (c.1860) tells the story of the museum property and holds events throughout the year. Temporary and traveling exhibits also feature a wide range of topics in local and national history.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Feet Up. World Off.
Download the free mobile app to view our enhanced food & beverage menu! Order your tickets AND food & beverage through the app, and we'll deliver it right to your seat!
Celebration! Cinema
Where Story Happens
1468 Cinema Way Benton Harbor, MI 49022 ▪ celebrationcinema.com

MORTON HOUSE MUSEUM

While you're here, please take time to visit the Morton House Museum in Benton Harbor. Built in 1849 by pioneer Eleazar Morton and his son Henry Morton, it is the oldest house in Benton Harbor and is known as "The Home of Benton Harbor History." Friendly and knowledgeable guides will tell you all about the house itself and the generations of Morton families who occupied it.

LOCATION:
501 Territorial Rd., Benton Harbor, MI
Free Parking
Entrance fee: $5
Open May-October.
Guided tours: 1st Saturdays, 10am-2 pm
June-August: All Wednesdays, 10am-2pm
Speaker Series: 2nd Tuesday, 7pm
mortonhousemuseum.org
(269) 325-5828

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Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 6 pm

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TOP 10 FREE THINGS TO DO

1. Visit the galleries and studios at the Box Factory for the Arts.
2. Walk the Galien River County Park.
3. Wander the Krasl Art Center's Sculpture Tour.
4. Go window shopping on State Street, St. Joseph.
5. Enjoy breathtaking sunsets every night at Silver Beach.
6. Hike the John & Dede Howard Trail.
7. Watch nature's ice sculptures form before your eyes on the North Pier Lighthouses.
8. Learn about local history at The Heritage Museum & Cultural Center.
9. Climb the stairs to the top of the dunes at Weko Beach.
10. View fiber production at The Sandpiper/ Hoof-to-Hanger Shop.

SARETT NATURE CENTER

Nature's artistry abounds in Southwest Michigan in every season, and this area is proud to acquaint you with a couple of very special nature centers.

Come and enjoy the beauty of nature at Sarett Nature Center, with over 1,000 scenic acres and eight miles of trails. Boardwalks, observation platforms, and an easily accessible barrier-free walkway offer up-close views of wetland wildlife and habitats without getting your feet wet. As you wander along the trail system, you can see wet forests, cattail marshes, shrub-carrs, and even a fen, a unique alkaline wetland. Great views of the Paw Paw River below can be seen from the trails running along its bluff. One of the most popular activities is birding, with over 300 species named on the Berrien County checklist. Cross-country skis and snowshoe rentals are available for those who want to partake of winter's beauty.

Sarett offers live animal displays, a butterfly house during the warm months, a nature play area for kids, and informational displays. Sarett requests that you enjoy the trails without pets, picnicking, picking wildflowers, biking, or other disturbances to the natural setting.

LOCATION:
2300 N Benton Center Rd, Benton Harbor
Free parking
Entrance fee: $3/adult; free for children under 12
sarrett.com
(269) 927-4832

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LOVE CREEK NATURE CENTER & COUNTY PARK

More natural beauty awaits you at Love Creek Nature Center and County Park. Love Creek winds its way through a beautiful, rolling 200-acre natural area outside Berrien Springs. Six miles of hiking trails provide access to a variety of habitats. The Berrien County Parks Commission's Naturalist Service is based there and activities are available throughout the year. Visitors are required to stay on trails, and picking or removing wildflowers or other plants is not permitted. Leashed dogs are permitted on trails when snow conditions do not exist.

Love Creek offers outstanding cross-country skiing, with groomed trails for both classic and skate-style skiing. Rental equipment for classic-style skiing is available in youth and adult sizes. Love Creek also provides mountain bikers with access to a 3.5-mile beginning/intermediate level mountain bike trail from spring through fall. The mountain bike trail is groomed for fat tire biking and fat bike rentals are available.

Love Creek has a Nature Center Building (check website for times open) and the Trillium Room, an inviting space for your next event, meeting or gathering.

LOCATION:
9292 Huckleberry Rd,
Berrien Center, MI
Nature Center Building open:
Wed.-Sun., 10am-5pm
Trails open daily year-round during daylight hours.
Free Parking
Daily pass: $3/vehicle for Berrien County residents; $5/vehicle for out-of-county visitors
Annual entry permit: $35
(269) 471-2617

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269-983-9663
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FERNWOOD BOTANICAL GARDEN AND NATURE PRESERVE

Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve is a special place where nature blends with gardens and art to create an experience of wonder for all ages. Comprised of 105 acres on the St. Joseph River near Buchanan, Michigan, it includes natural areas with woodlands, miles of walking and hiking trails, a reconstructed prairie, an arboretum, and cultivated public gardens that include an herb garden, railway garden, and other special gardens and collections. Indoors, visitors may enjoy a fern conservatory, art gallery, bird viewing, café, library, and gift shop.

Fernwood provides many opportunities for learning and enrichment for all ages all year long, including classes, workshops, lectures, concerts, trips, exhibits, and special events. Its facilities are ideal for weddings, receptions, business meetings and retreats, lectures, and special events of all kinds. Fernwood is truly a garden for all seasons.

LOCATION:
13988 Range Line Rd, Niles
Open: May - Oct.,
Tue - Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun., noon-6pm
Nov. – Apr.,
Tue. - Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., noon-5pm
Free parking
Admission fee: $10/adults; $7/students & seniors; $5/military; free/under 5
fernwoodbotanical.org
(269) 695-6491

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LET US ENTERTAIN YOU

Whatever your taste in music, live theater, dance or other entertainment, we have the place for you! You might want to take in a free St. Joseph Brown Bag Concert to tap your toes to a variety of music performed by local musicians; or perhaps a Sunday concert presented by the St. Joseph Municipal Band, directed by Donald K. Moely, would be more to your liking. It's free, too! Clubs and cafes in Southwest Michigan are filled with the invigorating vibe of live music. Czar's 505 and Mickey's in St. Joseph, and The Livery in Benton Harbor feature local, regional and national entertainment on a consistent basis. A large number of restaurants, bars and cafes also offer weekend entertainment. If you prefer the more relaxing strains of music, we invite you to sit back and enjoy the beauty of music to your taste in our larger, world-class venues.

THE MENDEL CENTER

The Lake Michigan College Mendel Center is the region's premier location for performing arts and events, hosting more than 40,000 annual visitors.

The Mendel Center Mainstage is recognized for its outstanding acoustic quality, professional-level artist accommodations, and technical specifications able to handle the largest of productions. Patrons often comment that the Mendel Center Mainstage is their favorite venue for live theater and entertainment because of its welcoming atmosphere, excellent sound quality, good sight lines from every seat in the house, and overall comfort and ease of accessibility.

The lineup of entertainment at the Mendel Center is diverse, from ballet to musicals, opera to jazz, and more, so be sure to check out the Mendel Center Mainstage website for further information.

LOCATION:
Lake Michigan College Campus
2755 E Napier Ave, Benton Harbor
Ticket prices vary with performances.
Free parking
themendelcenter.com
(269) 927-8700

HOWARD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Howard Performing Arts Center is another of our area's world-class performance centers. Located on the campus of Andrews University, this venue is one of beauty and acoustic excellence. As a state-of-the-art cultural center, it is devoted to performance, recording and broadcasting of classical music and is a great place to take in one of the many symphonies, choral events or ensembles.

LOCATION:
4160 E Campus Circle Dr, Berrien Springs
Ticket prices vary with performances.
Free parking
howard.andrews.edu.
(888) 467-6442 or (269) 471-3560

FOR THE ART LOVER

Southwest Michigan has some terrific sites for those who love art in its many forms. A stroll along the St. Joe River in St. Joseph, as well as along Silver Beach, offers not only beautiful scenery, but a wonderful array of modern sculptures. But there are a few places for art lovers where you'll want to spend time, browsing and taking in the diversity and giftedness of both local and nationally-acclaimed artists.

KRASL ART CENTER

Krasl Art Center is a great place to start! It offers high quality, always-changing art exhibitions and installations, as well as year 'round classes, camps and artist guilds in drawing, painting, ceramics, metals, woodworking and more. Their website will provide information regarding special events and programs, as well as art education opportunities, which are offered to residents and tourists alike, from young to old regardless of level of experience.

LOCATION:
707 Lake Blvd, St. Joseph
Free admission, with $5 donation suggested; fee-based classes
Free parking on first-come-first-served basis
krasl.org
(269) 983-0271

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BOX FACTORY FOR THE ARTS

If you're passionate about the arts, you won't want to miss a visit to the Box Factory for the Arts! Housed in the historic Williams Brothers Box Factory, the 55,000 square foot building is conveniently located just four blocks from the corner of Main Street and Broad in downtown St. Joseph. Home to a vibrant mix of artists and businesses, it is comprised of three art galleries, with more than 40 studio artists, an art market and a large performance space.

LOCATION:
1101 Broad St, St. Joseph
Hours: Mon – Sat., 10am-4pm
(open other hours during events and performances)
Free Admission, but some performance events require paid admission.
boxfactoryforthearts.org
(268) 983-3688

LUNCH BUFFET $7.49
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CHILDREN 3-5 $5.00; 6-10 $6.00

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Show Room Key for Discount

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Dinner - Dine In
W/ 2 Adult Dinner Buffets get
$1.50 Off
May not be combined with any other offer. Limit 2 people per discount. Exp. 3/31/20

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Children Under 2 eat FREE

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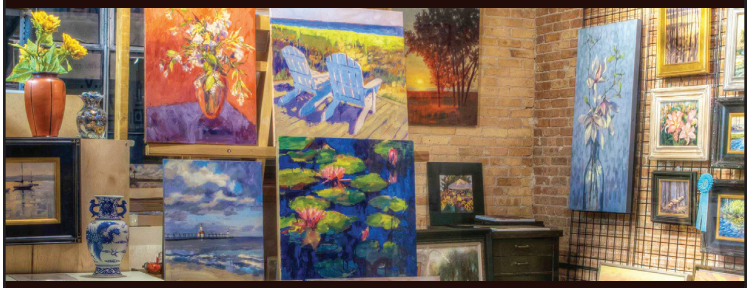
BOX FACTORY
FOR THE ARTS



Galleries are FREE and OPEN to the public
Monday-Saturday 10am - 4pm
Find us on FACEBOOK for information about concerts and other events.

1101 Broad Street, St. Joseph • 269.983.3688
boxfactoryforthearts.org

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NEW TERRITORY ARTS ASSOCIATION

Another spot you won't want to miss on your visit to Southwest Michigan is the Benton Harbor Arts District. New Territory Arts Association (NTAA) is dedicated to the revitalization of the Benton Harbor Arts District with a firm belief that "Art Builds Community."

Every four months, the Arts District presents its Art Hop when business members open their doors, inviting the general public to come in to showcase local artists. You'll enjoy checking out the multiple venues along the walkable Arts District streets. Art Hop events are family-friendly and offer the opportunity to view truly impressive art, as well as speak with local business owners. As you wander in and out of the galleries and shops in the arts district, you'll discover a wealth of creative talent and a passion that's contagious! On Friday evening, NTAA plays host to a friendly evening filled with an entertaining mix of art, music, dance, theater, culinary arts and more.

On the first Monday of every month, local musicians, poets and storytellers are invited to step up to the mic on NTAA's Open Stage at The Livery. The Livery is a local brewery and pizzeria in the arts district of Benton Harbor. Its professional sound and lighting systems and a history of bringing some of the best live music to the region make Open Stage one of the best free live performance events in the area.

Artoberfest is a unique combination of local artists, musicians, food and drink that shows the world what makes Benton Harbor great. Even better, this event helps fund experienced professionals who prepare young artists and musicians who are given the chance to publicly perform.

The newest addition to NTAA is The Ghostlight Theatre, presenting live theater productions, including musical productions.

You won't want to miss the excitement of Art Hop, Artoberfest, first Mondays at the Livery or live theater at the new Ghostlight Theater. The New Territory Arts Association webpage will give you dates and times of all events!

LOCATIONS:
NTAA - 210 Water St, Benton Harbor
The Livery – 190 5th St, Benton Harbor
Artoberfest – Corner of 5th St and Park St, Benton Harbor
The Ghostlight Theater – 101 Hinkley St, Benton Harbor
newterritoryarts.org
(269) 925-8760

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TWIN CITY PLAYERS

If you enjoy theater in a smaller, more intimate venue, then Twin City Players is just what you're looking for. Area performers, directors, and a host of other volunteers, have been giving of their time and energy since 1932 to present a variety of excellent dramas, musicals and comedies. There's not a bad seat in the house. Call for reservations.

LOCATION:
600 W. Glenlord Rd, St. Joseph
Free parking
twincityplayers.org
(269) 429-0400

THE GHOSTLIGHT THEATRE

The GhostLight Theatre is a new theatre performance venue in the Benton Harbor Arts District that seeks to illuminate the arts and culture of the area. It creates events where children and adults are more than observers, and become active participants in creation and exploration of a variety of performance media.

LOCATION:
101 Hinkley St, Benton Harbor
Free parking
ghostlightbh.com
(269) 252-5222

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LOCATIONS:
Benton Harbor Farmers Market
Pipestone and Main St., Benton Harbor
Open June 26 to Sept. Wednesdays, 10am-3pm
(269) 927-5639

St. Joseph Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, downtown St. Joseph
Open: Saturdays to Oct. 12, 9am-2pm

Typical Crop Availability - When to Pick in Michigan

Fruit/Veg	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	December
Apples								X	X	X	X	X
Asian pears								X	X	X	X	X
Asparagus				X	X	X	X					
Beans						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Beets								X	X	X	X	
Blackberries						X	X	X	X			
Blueberries								X	X	X		
Broccoli				X	X	X					X	X
Cabbage				X	X	X					X	X
Cantaloupes							X	X	X	X	X	X
Cherries							X	X	X			
Chestnuts											X	X
Christmas Trees											X	X
Cucumbers							X	X	X	X		
Eggplant							X	X	X	X	X	X
Greens				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

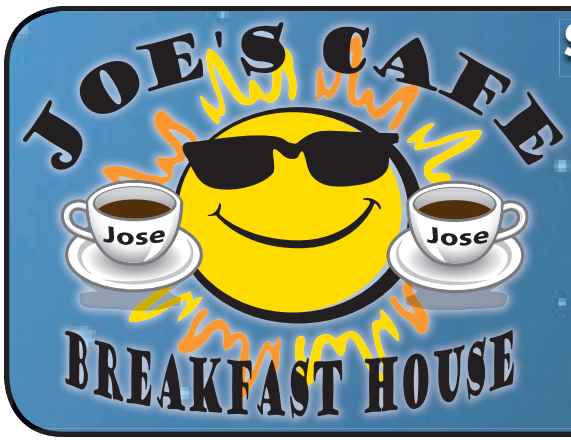
Fruit/Veg	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	December
Herbs				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nectarines							X	X	X	X		
Peaches						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Peas					X	X						
Peppers							X	X	X	X	X	X
Plums									X	X	X	X
Potatoes					X	X	X	X	X	X		
Pumpkins									X	X	X	X
Raspberries							X	X	X	X	X	X
Rhubarb					X	X	X	X				
Squash						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Strawberries					X			X				
Sweet Corn								X	X	X	X	
Sweet Potatoes									X	X	X	X
Tomatoes								X	X	X	X	
Watermelons								X	X	X	X	X

TAKE YOUR PICK

There are so many wonderful things to do in our area, so take your pick. We invite you to bite into any farm-fresh fruit or vegetable in Southwest Michigan, and you'll never want to buy store-bought again! Over 60 roadside markets and pick-your-own farms offer you sun-ripened and rain-sweetened goodness in a wide variety of produce. So plan to visit any of the area farms and bring home bushels of mouth-watering freshness.

Throughout the late summer months beans, beets, eggplant, honey, nectarines, broccoli, carrots and cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, currants, dill weed, peaches, peppers, potatoes, raspberries, squash, tomatoes and zucchini abound. In August blackberries are at their peak and September adds greens, rutabagas, and turnips. October is when fall favorites arrive, with late varieties of apples, apple cider, gourds, mums, corn stalks and an endless variety of pumpkins – perfect for fall decorating!

A couple of other options to explore are the Benton Harbor Farmers Market and the St. Joseph Farmers Market. As you browse among the tables loaded with a variety of local produce, you'll be enticed to savor some of the best fresh-picked fruits and vegetables the area has to offer. Or allow yourself to be tempted by the beauty of cut flowers, the aroma of hearth-baked bread and fine pastries, local honey and jams.



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HOOKED ON FISHING

Southwest Michigan is an angler's heaven. You can enjoy everything from deep-water fishing for 20-lb. salmon to smelt dipping. And there's always an excuse to go fishing, for you can fish all year 'round.

The variety of fish is what hooks many anglers on the area. If you just want to enjoy the ride and the fresh catch, or if you like the sport of deep-water fishing on Lake Michigan but don't have the gear, the area has a number of licensed professional fishing charter captains. A charter association survey indicates that 92% of the anglers catch fish, which means you'll probably bring home more than great stories.

Lake Michigan and the rivers that open into it are well-known for their coho, salmon, steelhead, Chinook salmon, and brown trout. Most catches range from 5-20 lbs., although Chinook salmon can weigh in at 30 lbs. Other catches include smallmouth bass, perch, smelt, walleye, pike, catfish, crappy, sucker and bluegill. Inland lakes and streams are favorite fishing sites for panfish, northern pike, bass, musky, and brown trout. A fishing license is required and is available at most sporting goods stores and bait shops. A list of charter boat captains can be found online at swmichigan.org/more-entertainment/fishing

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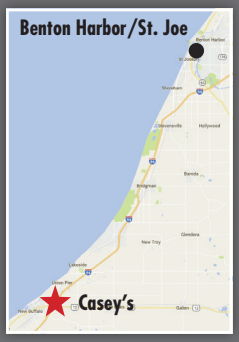

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New Buffalo, MI
www.caseysnewbuffalo.com

Find Us On Facebook and Untappd

GOLFING ALONG THE SHORELINE

You'll find southwestern Michigan's public golf courses with their hills, streams and tree groves to be both challenging and fun. You have honors.

- Berrien Hills Golf Club - Since the 1920s this has been one of southwest Michigan's premium courses.
  St. Joseph, (269) 925-9002
- Blossom Trails Golf Club - Family friendly course with 18 holes, plus a Par 3 course and full practice area.
  Benton Harbor, (269) 925-4951
- Brookwood Golf Course - A challenging 18-hole golf course famous for its character and challenge. Buchanan, (269) 695-7818
- Hampshire Country Club and Dogwood Trail (36 holes) - The 18-hole Hampshire course offers gently rolling terrain, open front nine, wooded back nine. Dowagiac, (269) 782-7476.
- Harbor Shores Golf Club - This Jack Nicklaus designed course is home to Kitchen Aid Senior PGA Championships in 2020, 2022, and 2024 in Benton Harbor, (269) 927-4653.
- Indian Lake Hills Golf Course - Indian Lake Hills Golf Course has 27 holes on watered fairways with woods and orchards. Eau Claire, (269) 782-2540.
- Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club - Rated 4 Stars by Golf Digest, Lake Michigan Hills is an 18-hole course with a Par 72. Benton Harbor, (269) 849-4653.
- Paw Paw Lake Golf Course - A scenic Par 70 public golf course on the shores of Paw Paw Lake. Watervliet, (269) 463-3831.
- Pebblewood Country Club - 18-hole public golf course. Golf on one of the oldest golf courses in the area, built in 1923. Bridgman, (269) 465-5611.
- Pipestone Creek Golf Course – Long open par-5s and a richly-wooded back nine make this the golf course for the rest of us. Eau Claire, (269) 944-1611

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WEDDING DESTINATION

Sunlight reflects off waves and warms your bare shoulders. Crimson oak, yellow sassafras and a pumpkin patch create a scene of autumn bliss. Pink blossoms of spring crowd limbs of peach trees in the orchard emitting the sweetest fragrance. Winter's snow glistens iridescent on the blanketed ground framed by trees silhouetted against the clouded sky. There you are, dressed in flowing white on the happiest day of your life.

Dream of your wedding in the countryside and communities of southwest Michigan. Filled with ceremony and reception venues from sugar-sand beaches to vintage barns, rolling vineyards, elegant reception halls and places in between, your wedding is bound to be a beautiful and memorable occasion. The Southwest Michigan Tourist Council offers solid referrals including rehearsal dinner, DJ, florist, table favors, attendant gifts, spa services, item rentals, bakeries, transportation, catering and bartending.

Planning early is encouraged, as well as considering the off-season when your guests will not be competing with summer tourists for accommodations. Availability should be higher then and prices lower, and off-season incentives will save you money.

The Tourist Council can also provide you with free hotel-bid service in St. Joseph, Benton Harbor and Stevensville, remembering that space may be extremely limited in summertime. They'll get you started and provide local information for out-of-town guests.

Dream and be inspired by the landscape, golf courses and pleasant hotels; and make this experience forever memorable! Contact Southwestern Michigan Tourist Council to make your dream wedding a reality!

LOCATION:
2300 Pipestone Rd, Benton Harbor, MI
swmichigan.org/weddings and scroll to tabs for Venues, Details and Incentives
(269) 925-6301

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"I could live in here & just laugh all day!" Lynn B.
"I'm stuck in your store and I can't get out!" Leslie W.
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BEACHES

Beautiful, majestic Lake Michigan is a major draw to this area, with visitors enjoying splashing and swimming in its waters, boating, fishing, surfing, windsurfing or parasailing. The power Lake Michigan displays in storms is something to behold; and in winter, as ice piles up along the shoreline and drapes the lighthouses in glistening ice, the Lake presents yet another kind of breathtaking beauty, making a perfect photographic opportunity. But the lazy days of summer and early autumn entice most visitors to the shores of Lake Michigan. The sandy beaches are perfect for enjoying the sun, picnicking, or building sand castles. Breezy days are ideal for flying kites on the beach, a delightful sight as they soar high against the backdrop of a clear blue sky. Many beaches have volleyball nets in place, making it easy to organize or pick up a game of beach volleyball. And everyone agrees that sunsets along the shores of Lake Michigan are truly breathtaking, a photographer's dream.

When enjoying the beaches of Southwest Michigan, we want you to keep in mind that alcohol is prohibited on all Berrien County beaches.

Fresh food, Great views, Just add friends!

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New Buffalo Public Beach offers visitors a refreshment stand, a small play area for children, restrooms, a dune stairway, overlook and boardwalk, beach chair and game rentals, bicycle parking, and eight boat launch ramps. The dune can be used for sledding in winter. No pets, fires or glass containers are allowed. Lifeguards are on duty during the summer months.

Weko Beach features a modern beach house with concession stand, grills, camping, changing areas, restrooms, a cold outdoor shower, a boat launch directly into Lake Michigan and volleyball nets. There is also a beautiful boardwalk, two dune overlooks and the playing of "Taps" at dusk on summer evenings, as well as free summer concerts.

Lincoln Township Beach and Nature Center is a small, quiet beach of sand and stone mix. It features an attractive boardwalk and easy access to the beach. Restrooms and a picnic area are available.

Lions Park in St. Joseph offers three sheltered pavilions, parking, sidewalks, a playground, grills and restrooms; however, no lifeguards are on duty and swimming is discouraged. This beach offers a superb view of St. Joseph's piers and lighthouses.

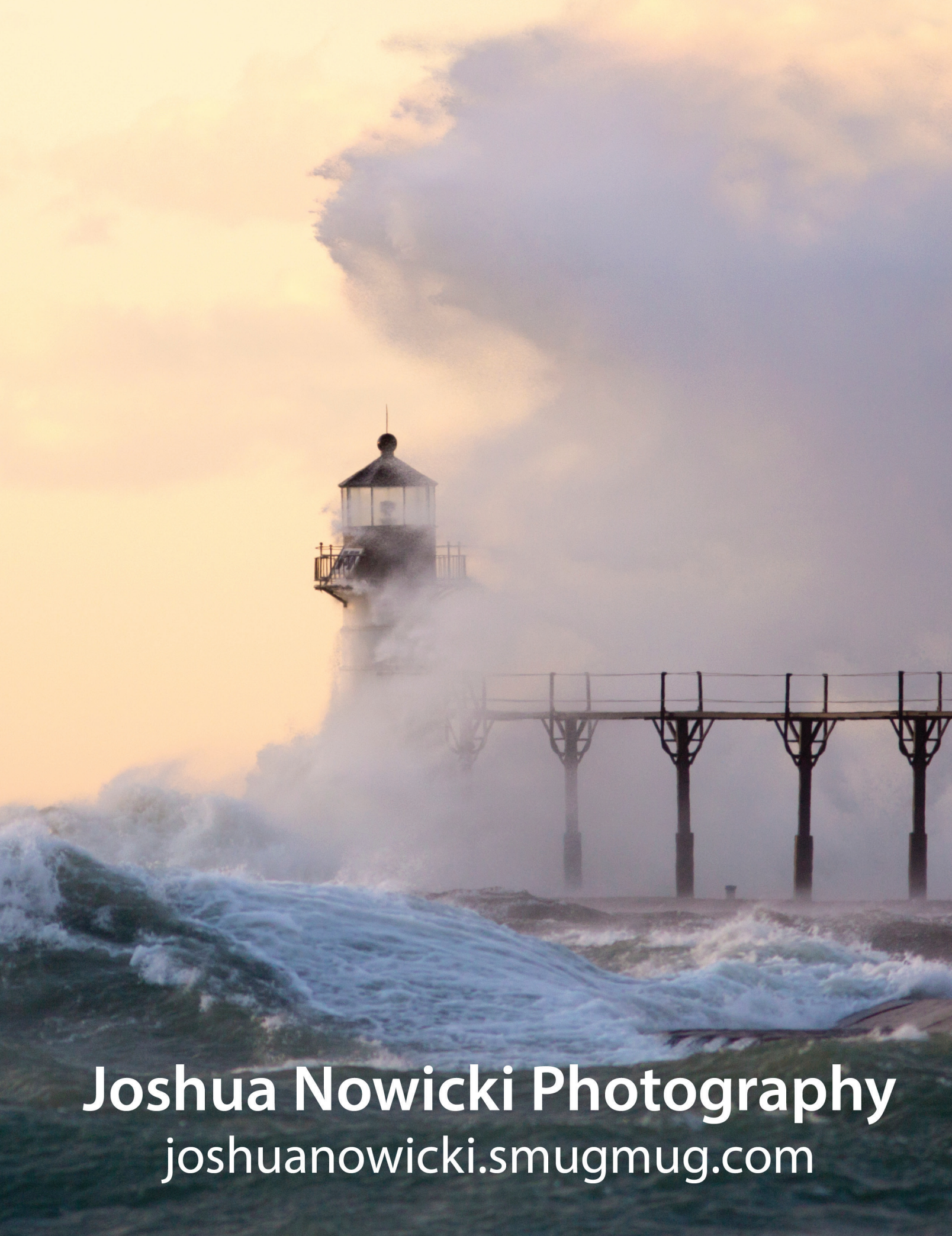
Silver Beach is a popular beach that provides a 600-space parking lot off Broad Street, men's and women's bathhouses, park office, visitors' center, pavilion, south pier, bike racks, playground equipment, volleyball nets and a 1,600-foot beach for swimmers. A lifeguard is on duty during the summer. Grills are available.

Tiscornia Beach is a family-oriented park located on sixteen acres along the shoreline of Lake Michigan at the northwest corner of the St. Joseph. Amenities include the North Pier Lighthouse and walkway that is a popular spot for fishing and watching sunsets, restroom facilities, sandy beach and a pavilion that will accommodate about forty for picnics. Non-residents may purchase a seasonal parking permit from the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

Jean Klock Park features a paved lot, boardwalk, volleyball courts, observation tower, pavilion, bathhouse, concession area, playground and picnic shelter.

Rocky Gap Park has three acres and 1,100 feet of lake frontage. It's a great beach for finding sea glass. There are no lifeguards or restrooms.

Hagar Township Beach has a paved parking lot, picnic tables, a shady walkway to the beach, slides, and portable toilet facilities. Picnic tables and grills are available. Dogs are allowed and a bag dispenser is provided.


Joshua Nowicki Photography
joshuanowicki.smugmug.com

FALL/WINTER ESCAPE 2019-2020

AUGUST

4-Oct 6 (Sundays)
Antiques on the Bluff
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

3-Sep 1 (Saturdays)
Miniature Train Rides – Come Make a Memory
Eden Springs Park & Campground, Benton Harbor

3-Oct 12 (Saturdays)
Farmers Market
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

2-30
Friday Night Concerts
John E.N. Howard Bandshell, St. Joseph

7-21
Wednesday Brown Bag Concerts
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

7-28
Walk-In-Wednesdays
Forever Clean Soap Works, St. Joseph

1-4, 8-11
Clybourne Park Musical
The Ghostlight Theater, Benton Harbor Arts District

2-4
23rd Annual Chalk the Block
Downtown, St. Joseph

3-4
Live at The Acorn: The Chicago Experience
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

3-Oct 20 (Saturdays & Sundays)
Jammin' in the Vineyard
Round Barn Estate, Baroda

3
Summer Jam
Shadowland Pavilion, St. Joseph

3
Vintage Blues Bash
Lemon Creek Winery, Berrien Springs

4-5
Open Mic Night
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

4
Smartphone Photography
Fernwood Nature Preserve, Niles

9-10
Harbor Country Opera
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

9
Kennedy's Kitchen
Fernwood Nature Preserve, Niles

10
Royal Grand Concert
Vineyard 2121, Benton Harbor

11
Family Funday
Free Run Cellars, Baroda

12-17
Berrien County Youth Fair
Fairgrounds, Berrien Springs

16
Andrew McMahon Concert in the Wilderness
Round Barn Estate, Baroda

17
Rod & Roll Classic Auto Show
Downtown Dowagiac

17
27th Annual Harvest Party
Free Run Cellars, Baroda
6th Annual Boat Walk
Michigan Maritime Museum, South Haven

22-25, 29-Sep 1
Urinetown Theater Performance
The Ghostlight Theater, Benton Harbor Arts District

25
Music in the Park
City of Baroda

31-Sep 1
Fruits of Labor
Free Run Cellars, Baroda

31
Lake Bluff Artisan Faire
Lake Bluff Park, St. Joseph

SEPTEMBER

6-7
Live at the Acorn: Expo '76
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

7
Harvest Festival
Lemon Creek Winery, Berrien Springs

7
Auto Show
Round Barn Estate, Baroda

15
Half Note, Half Marathon 5K
Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra,
Stevensville/Baroda

15
Vintage Baseball: Chicago Salmon vs. House of David Echoes
Eden Springs Park & Campground, Benton Harbor

21
5th Annual Harvest Party
Vineyard 2121, Benton Harbor

21
Beatles vs. Stones – A Musical Showdown
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

21
7th Annual Fall Fest
Downtown St. Joseph

22
Symphony Home Tour
Throughout Area

27-28
A Heartache Tonight – Tribute to the Eagles
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

OCTOBER

1
Million Dollar Quartet
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

6
Beethoven & All That Jazz
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

10
Little Black Dress
Silver Beach Center, St. Joseph

12-13
Tusk – The Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

12
Under the Harvest Moon
Downtown Dowagiac

17-18
Chris Hillman of The Byrds Debuts!
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

18
Mike Super: Magic & Illusion
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

19-20
Beggers Banquet Band – Tribute to
the Rolling Stones
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

25-26
Heartless – Midwest Tribute to Heart
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

NOVEMBER

8-9
The Billy Elton Band – Tribute to
Billy Joel & Elton John
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

9
Mystic India: The World Tour
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

FALL/WINTER ESCAPE 2019-2020

NOVEMBER

16
Christmas Celebration
Downtown Dowagiac

22
25th Annual Luminary
Downtown St. Joseph

30
Small Business Saturday
Downtown St. Joseph

DECEMBER

Nov 30-Dec 1
The Newports: Something Old. Something Soul
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

6
Candle Light Christmas Parade
Downtown Dowagiac

6
Window Wonderland
Downtown St. Joseph

7, 12, 13,14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23
Santa's House
Downtown St. Joseph

7
21st Annual Reindog Parade
Downtown St. Joseph

7
Handel's Messiah
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

13-14
The Bergamot presents A South Shore Christmas
Acorn Theater, Three Oaks

18
The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Musical
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

JANUARY

24
Chili Tour
Downtown St. Joseph

25
Winter Beer Fest
Downtown St. Joseph

FEBRUARY

Jan 31-Feb 2
Magical Ice Fest
Downtown St. Joseph

8
The Manhattan Transfer with the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

15
Erth's Prehistoric Aquarium Adventure
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

29
Winter Delights Special Engagement
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

MARCH

13
March Mannequins
Downtown St. Joseph

15
Mozart & The Magical Flute
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

APRIL

26
Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra
Maestro Robin Fountain's Fabulous Finale
The Mendel Center at LMC, Benton Harbor

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